

Mismanagement of reservoirs of rivers

2257. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) what measures have been mooted to look into the alleged mismanagement and negligent operations of the large reservoirs on Tapti, Narmada, Krishna, Godavari, Mahi and Sabarmati rivers, which further created man-made disasters in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh this monsoon;
- (b) whether any review of the dams operation rules have been taken to check sudden downstream releases from dams and also the aspect of resorting to high pre-monsoon storages has been investigated into;
- (c) if so what have been the findings and remedial measures taken thereon; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The operation and management of reservoirs rests with the State Governments. Most of the dam absorb major part of the inflow and the outflow is reduced to some extent which would otherwise have flown in absence of the dam. Central Water Commission (CWC) of MOWR is engaged in inflow forecast for three dams in Gujarat namely Ukai Dam on the Tapi river, Kadana dam on the Mahi river and Dharoi dam on the Sabarmati river. There is no negligence from CWC in issuing inflow forecast. The performance of flood forecast issued by Tapi Division CWC, Surat has been satisfactory in spite of very severe floods, disconnection of phones and failure of wireless sets due to non availability of electricity. The Ukai dam authorities were informed from time to time by CWC about the expected inflows. Operations manual for Ukai dam reservoir was prepared by the CWC on request from the State Government.

The State Government may review Dam Operation and revise flood cushion provisions in line with provisions outlined in National Water Policy-2002 and Bureau of Indian Standard Code IS: 7323-1994 "Operation of Reservoirs-Guide lines".